

TO: Members of the Judiciary Committee

FROM: Scott Raymond LMT  
American Massage Therapy Association  
Connecticut Chapter  
100 Market Square, Suite 2  
Newington CT 06111

RE: Bill No. 5883 An Act Concerning the Unlicensed Practice of Massage Therapy

Good Morning Ladies and Gentleman of the Judiciary Committee, my name is Scott Raymond. I am the President of the Connecticut Chapter of the American Massage Therapy Association, the owner of the Market Square Wellness Center in Newington, and an instructor with the Connecticut Center for Massage Therapy.

It is my honor to write this on behalf of over 2000 Licensed Massage Therapists in Connecticut that are members of the American Massage Therapy Association. We speak in support of Bill No. 5883 ~ An Act Concerning the Unlicensed Practice of Massage Therapy.

The purpose of this bill is to establish criminal penalties for the unlicensed practice of massage therapy or the use of a title that implies licensure as a massage therapist.

After attending meetings and hearings in Connecticut towns, it seems as if there is confusion in regards in how to approach the prosecution of individuals and businesses that violate Public Act 07-35. This is the bill that will help clarify that and empower local law officials to prosecute offenders of Public Act 07-35. I have been informed of issues around public health, public safety, and even worse, human trafficking. Some individuals have been using the Healthcare Profession of Therapeutic Massage to hide sexually orientated businesses. Others may have lost their license due to unethical behavior but they are still practicing illegally. Both of these scenarios put our profession at risk and the general public at a greater risk.

If Bill 5883 is passed, it will protect the public by making it easier for law enforcement to identify and confront illegal individuals that are practicing Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork in the State of CT. On behalf of the members of the American Massage Therapy Association I encourage you to support this bill.